

THE RICHMOND DISPATCH.

BY THE DISPATCH COMPANY.

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**HARRIS' OWN WORDS.** In his letter of acceptance the President said:

"I am in the unenviable position of the Democratic party we will not neglect the interests of labor and our workingmen. In all efforts to remedy existing evils we will furnish no excuse for the loss of employment or the reduction of the wages of honest toil. On the contrary, we propose in any adjustment of our revenue laws to concede such encouragement and advantage to the employers of domestic labor as will easily compensate for any difference that may exist between the standard of wages which should be paid to our laboring men and the rate allowed in other countries."

The *Gazette* must, we think, acknowledge that President Cleveland and Governor Hull and the Democrats of New York all stand upon the Virginia Roanoke platform. We are in such good company that we cannot but express our regret that the *Alexandria Gazette* is not with us.

**Significant Light.**

Mr. JAMES REDPATH, when whom in the days of abolition excitement no man was more bitter against the South, has in great degree revised his opinions regarding our people. In ante-bellum times Mr. REDPATH wrote from afar off, and, like most of his genus, his ignorance of the South and her institutions was excused only by his prejudice. Now he is writing from amongst us. His style is not less vigorous than of yore, but time, personal observation, and reason have brought him nearer to truth and justice, and he seems, as far as his power lies, to be striving to make amends for his past errors and misrepresentations. In a recent letter to the *Boston Herald* he takes up the negro question, and his utterances are in marked contrast with extracts that could be produced from some of his previous writings—even some of his writings as late date as the reconstruction period. He still teaches some false doctrine, as for instance when he says the carpet-baggers, as a class, were as honest as any other public men. The history of reconstruction shows that the honest carpet-bagger was the exception. The carpet-baggers state almost everything portable they could put their hands on. It is surmised that had they possessed the knowledge of hoisting and transporting dynamite supposed by many to have been possessed by the ancient Egyptians, not a few of our mountains would now adorn the flat regions of the North. They perished on occasions as Mr. TOMPKINS thought, not because they had used for the article, but because it might come in. However, that aside, the carpet-bagger has been consigned to the political category, from which he will hardly be resurrected notwithstanding the efforts in that direction of JOHN SHERMAN, CHANDLER, MURAT HALSTEAD, and the rest of the malignants. Mr. REDPATH atones for his consideration for the carpet-bagger by stating a number of facts. After expressing the opinion that there is a large ingredient of lumbering in the cry against the solid South for the reason that so long as the negroes are sold for the white man, the negroes will remain solid for the Democrats, he says:

"There is also a good deal of cant about the suppression of the negro vote. The negroes never had anything to say—any influence whatever—during the reconstruction period—about the practical management of the party or the selection of candidates. Half a dozen white men, of northern birth and southern Republicanism, selected candidates and dictated platforms and policy. They consolidated the black vote as a distinct and hostile force against the white vote."

Yes, arrayed the negroes against the whites, their best friends. But hear Mr. REDPATH again:

"There is the best of feeling existing between the two races. With the dispersion of the class designated as carpet-baggers, the blacks have lost nearly all their reconstruction interest in politics. They have found that freedom meant wages for work, not a free water-patch jurisdiction, and the natural influence of a race, educated in political devices, and knowing its own purposes and how to achieve them, has at last asserted itself."

And again:

"With the dispersion of their old white northern leaders the southern whites have resumed their traditional position toward the negro—good will, kindly feeling, but no toleration to negro rule in politics nor to social equality."

What a striking commentary these extracts are upon the hypocrisy and slanders of the malignants and their pretended love for the negro. Coming from a man of Mr. REDPATH's antecedents, do they not throw a most significant light upon the methods and purposes of the "grand old party"?

**The Two Houses.**

MITCHELL, N. C., Sept. 17, 1888.

To the Editor of the *Dispatch*:

Will you please publish in your paper a statement showing the political complexion of each branch of the National Congress from 1872 to the present time, and so settle a little dispute? Yours very respectfully,

W. M. WATKINS.

Up to March 4, 1873, the Republicans controlled the House of Representatives; then the Democrats till March 3, 1881; then the Republicans till March 3, 1885; then the Democrats till now.

The Senate was Republican up to March 3, 1873; then Democratic till March 3, 1881, when it stood 37 to 37, with MAHON and DAVID DAVIS on neither side. From 1881 till now it has been Republican.

**New York.**—Congressman TIM CAMPBELL has returned to Washington from New York, and says that New York is safe for CLEVELAND. In fact he says that New York is no longer in doubt if it ever was. MATTHEW J. POWELL, under the wing of TIM CAMPBELL, has been in consultation with Democratic senators and members who are prominent at the headquarters of the Congressional committee. Boss POWER echoes Tim's enthusiastic prediction as to the outcome in New York State. So says a Washington correspondent of the *New York World*.

Where did the Lynchburg *News* find Harris' remarks against the Blair bill? Does our contemporary vouch for it that he made them? If so it will make a good campaign document.—*Richmond Dispatch*.

The remarks to which reference is had are contained in a speech delivered by Harris on the Blair bill at the first session of the Forty-eighth Congress. Our attention was drawn to them by seeing them quoted in a sketch of "Harris' Life and Public Services" in the *Philadelphia Telegraph*, a Republican journal supporting General Harrison for the presidency. They constitute a complete squelch to Yost's fanfare of

about Democratic opposition to the Blair bill and Republican advocacy of giving the electoral votes of Virginia to Harrison and Morton.—*Lynchburg News*.

The remarks are as follows:

"There is a giving that pauperizes, there is a giving that ennobles. It is against that sort of giving that I protest. This whole measure of benevolence in these late years has come to the conclusion that giving should always be so regulated as to save self-respect and awaken in the mind of the recipient the lost faith in his ability to take care of himself. We should carefully refrain from giving alms to the poor, and instead of strength and self-dependence out of men. That principle will, I think, apply to the giving which is proposed by this (the Blair) bill."

This is a clear, distinct, unmistakable declaration against the Blair bill. What have BAYLY BROWN, Yost, and the other Republicans who are so greatly concerned about the fate of the Blair bill, to say as to Mr. HARRISON'S opposition to it?

The attraction of gravitation comes as near being a universal principle as any known to man, and most men are in the habit of considering it as a fundamental fact, which no one can question. But Professor Asaph Hall contributes a paper to *Gold's Astronomical Journal*, in which he points out that the attraction of several stars does not agree with this principle.—*Philadelphia Press*.

In a book published a few years ago by Hon. J. B. STALLAN, of Ohio, United States Minister to Italy, it is stated that we coin a phrase ("attraction of gravitation") and think we have discovered a principle or explained what we have not even attempted to explain. He quotes HENRIET SWENSON to this purpose, and we think, and are not sure that he does not think in old Sir Isaac himself.

Everybody desirous of seeing the means of communication between various parts of the city improved—and who is not?—will be glad that the use of electricity as a motor, now on trial in Fourth avenue, promises a new era of progress. As the electric car of yesterday began yesterday to run regularly has to accommodate itself to the cars pulled by horses little improvement in speed can now be looked for. When the line is fully equipped with these cars the old-fashioned horse-drawn cars will be reduced almost one-half.—*New York Tribune*.

Richmond was nearly a year ahead of New York in this matter.

What a pity that Richmond capitalists have not built a new hotel here this year. The yellow fever scare will keep thousands of northern people out of Florida next winter; and out of these thousands Richmond might have secured enough to fill two or three large first-class hotels all the winter.

**BRIEF COMMENT.**

The usual occasional and semi-occasional rumor that BISMARCK wants to resign has arrived from Berlin.

The *Philadelphia Press* says: "The Senate should adjourn and replenish its stock of courtesy." In order to that a number of Republican members would have to resign.

The *Ohio State Journal* says: "Cincinnati has adopted the wrong course in fighting other parts of the State, and doing it through malicious slander." HALSTEAD has turned some of the guns he has been using on the South upon his own State.

"New inventions are frequently turned to account by criminals, as well as the detectives, but it will puzzle the criminals how to make use of the new pocket photographing apparatus." They might photograph the detectives just for the amusement of the thing.

"A total annihilation of either the McCors or the HARTFELDS is said to be the only way to peace in the neighborhood of Catlettsburg, Ky." When the annihilation takes place it would be well to include the able practitioner who seems to have a corner on the McCors-HARTFELDS news.

**New Book.**

*Query People, With Puns and Claws and their Keen Kapers.* Illustrated. By PALMER COX, author of "The Brownies, Their Book." Philadelphia: HUBBARD BROTHERS.

The *Query People* of this book belong to the animal classes, both wild and tame. It is crowded with illustrations, and will please the children.

For sale by the publishers.

**The Mercic Model of Lee.**

To the Editor of the *Dispatch*:

By your issue of this morning I see that our honored Governor is reported as saying to some of his advisers that the Lee model now on exhibition, as the Governor is a distinguished cavalryman, and I was never in that branch of the service, I yield of course to his statement, the validity of regulation for holding the reins. I was only giving what I heard, and I am not a rider in the country, which seemed to me to give a perfect control over the horse as could be accomplished with the left hand. It seems, however, that the artist has failed to give the regulation as intended. I don't think an ordinary observer would thus interpret the figure. The bare head on a horse slowly moving suggests the return of a salute; but the salute of soldiers is usually made to a general near by, and Lee was near enough to his men to receive and salute them. He would hardly be in a situation in which he could scan the battle-field and find the weak spot in his enemy's lines. The elevated eyes indicate that he is looking at a distant object; but nothing else about the figure, I think, supports that idea, and, as I suppose, the General as drawing the reins to scan the battle-field, and as he takes off his hat to cheer the cheers of his men his eyes search for the weak spot in his enemy's lines upon which to order the final charge and ride. I don't think an ordinary observer would thus interpret the figure. The bare head on a horse slowly moving suggests the return of a salute; but the salute of soldiers is usually made to a general near by, and Lee was near enough to his men to receive and salute them. He would hardly be in a situation in which he could scan the battle-field and find the weak spot in his enemy's lines. 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